

APPENDIX F:
Correspondence



United States Department of the Interior

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

Ice Age and North Country
National Scenic Trails
700 Rayovac Drive, Suite 100
Madison, Wisconsin 53711

IN REPLY REFER TO:

D18(IATR)
Waushara County

November 27, 2001

Ms. Janet Smith
Field Supervisor
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
1015 Challenger Court
Green Bay, Wisconsin 54311-8331

Dear Ms. Smith:

We request informal consultation with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to comply with Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended.

The National Park Service in cooperation with our two partners in the Ice Age National Scenic Trail (NST) project, the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources and Ice Age Park and Trail Foundation, are conducting a planning process in Waushara County, Wisconsin, to identify a corridor within which the trail will be located. The purpose of this process is to identify possible route locations for the trail, define a boundary within which Federal and State monies may be used to acquire lands for the trail, and fulfill Federal and State environmental compliance requirements. Since all participation in the Ice Age NST project is voluntary, the trail's ultimate location will be determined by the willingness of landowners to sell lands or grant permission to cross their property. The proposed corridor is approximately 27 miles in length and 1-5 miles in width. It bisects the county in a southwest to northeast direction. Currently, 7.5 miles exist within the corridor.

The corridor generally follows the Almond Moraine deposited approximately 16,000 years ago through the townships of Coloma, Richford, Hancock, Deerfield, Wautoma, and Oasis. Here it encompasses glacial features found on the edge of the glacier such as kettle ponds, outwash plains, stagnant ice topography, and a very distinctive tunnel channel. When the corridor reaches the Town of Rose, in northeast Waushara County, it winds onto the Elderon recessional moraines and connects up to the approved Waupaca/Portage Counties' corridor near Heffron.

The corridor has the potential to link four state fishery areas, a state wildlife area, two city parks, and the Waushara County School Forest. It also passes through or near the

Villages of Richford, Hancock, and Wild Rose. Collectively, these areas provide support facilities such as trailheads, parking, water, lodging, and phones. Among the resource features found within the corridor are high quality oak woodlands, prairie and oak savanna remnants, pristine trout streams, and pothole marshes. Well-placed scenic overlooks could potentially provide dramatic views of the glacial landscape.

At this time we are gathering information on Federally-listed species within the project area. Please send us a list of species that could potentially be affected by the project. This information will be used to evaluate potential impacts of various alternatives outlined within the environmental assessment.

Enclosed are maps of the proposed corridor and existing trail that falls within the following legal description:

T18N, R8E Sections 1, 36
T18N, R9E Sections 6-9, 16, 17, 20, 21, 28-32
T19N, R8E Sections 12-14, 24-26, 35, 36
T19N, R9E Sections 1, 2, 9-11, 15-17, 19-22, 28-31
T19N, R10E Section 6
T20N, R9E Section 36
T20N, R10E Sections 3-5, 8-10, 14-16, 22-33

Statewide, the scope of this project consists of developing a hiking trail that generally follows the terminal and recessional moraines, and other significant glacial features left by the last glacial advance some 10,000 years ago. Portions of the trail may be developed for cross-country skiing; however, uses such as horseback riding or mountain biking will not be allowed. The trail will consist primarily of a brushed footpath that is 2-4 feet in width. In steep areas, side-hill construction will be utilized. Sapling size trees and other understory brush will be cleared to a 4-foot width and 8-foot height. Wetland areas and small streams will be crossed with boardwalks and bridges. The standards that guide the development of the trail are contained in the "Ice Age National Scenic Trail, Comprehensive Plan for Management and Use," and "Ice Age National Scenic Trail, A Handbook for Trail Design, Construction and Maintenance."

If you have questions concerning the project, please contact Pam Schuler, our Ice Age NST Manager, at 608-441-5610.

Sincerely,

Thomas L. Gilbert
Superintendent

Enclosure

Also sent to:

Mr. Robert Ball
District Engineer
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
190 Fifth Street East
St. Paul, Minnesota 55101-1638

Ms. Jamie Schlangen
Environmental Review Coordinator
Natural Heritage Inventory Program
Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources
P.O. Box 7921
Madison, Wisconsin 53707-7921

Mr. Phillip Barnes
Acting Division Administrator
Federal Highway Administrator
567 D'Onofrio Drive
Madison, Wisconsin 53719

Ms. Patricia Leavenworth
State Conservationist
Natural Resources Conservation Service
6515 Watts Road
Madison, Wisconsin 53719-2726

Mr. Michael Prouty
Field Representative
USDA Forest Service
1992 Folwell Avenue
St. Paul, Minnesota 55108

Mr. Warren Gebert
State Representative
United State Geological Survey
8505 Research Way
Middleton, Wisconsin 53562-3581

Mr. James Robertson
Director and State Geologist
Wisconsin Geological and Natural History Survey
3817 Mineral Point Road
Madison, Wisconsin 53705-5100

Ms. Alicia L. Goehring
Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer
State Historical Society of Wisconsin
816 State Street
Madison, Wisconsin 53706

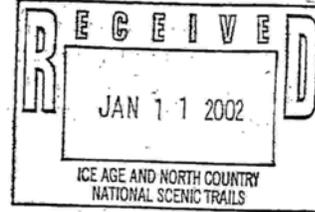
M. Thomas Skinner
Regional Administrator
Environmental Protection Agency
77 W. Jackson Boulevard
Chicago, Illinois 60604



United States Department of the Interior

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

Green Bay ES Field Office
1015 Challenger Court
Green Bay, Wisconsin 54311-8331
Telephone 920/465-7440
FAX 920/465-7410
January 8, 2002



Memorandum

To: Superintendent, Ice Age and North Country National Scenic Trails, National Park Service, Madison, WI
Attn: Pam Schuler

From: Field Supervisor, ES Field Office, Fish and Wildlife Service, Green Bay, WI

Subject: Informal Consultation for the Ice Age National Scenic Trail Project, Waushara County, Wisconsin D18(IATR)

The Fish and Wildlife Service has reviewed the information you have provided for the subject project. We offer the following comments relative to potential impacts of the project on threatened and endangered species.

Federally-Listed Threatened and Endangered Species

A review of our files indicates that the following federally-listed species are present in Waushara County:

<u>Classification</u>	<u>Common Name</u>	<u>Scientific Name</u>	<u>Habitat</u>
threatened	bald eagle	<u>Haliaeetus</u> <u>leucocephalus</u>	breeding
endangered	Karner blue butterfly	<u>Lycaeides</u> <u>melissa</u> <u>samuelis</u>	prairie, oak savanna and jack pine areas w/wild lupine
threatened	Fassett's locoweed	<u>Oxytropis</u> <u>campestris</u> var. <u>chartacea</u>	open sandy lakeshores

The bald eagle and Fassett's locoweed are not known to occur in the project area; however, a number of locations are known for the Karner blue butterfly within the project corridor. The butterfly is known from at least seven locations within the proposed trail corridor, in the Towns of Rose, Hancock and Richford in Waushara County, Wisconsin. The known locations are in ~~Township 18 North, Range 9 East, Section 7~~ Township 19 North, Range 8 East, Sections 24 and 25; also in Township 20 North, Range 10 East, Sections 5, 9, 14, and 29. Because of the abundance of suitable habitat in Waushara County, it is possible there are other, as yet undiscovered, occurrences of the species in this area.

In order to determine whether this project will impact the butterfly, we suggest you proceed to choose your specific, preliminary trail route, and then conduct a survey of potential Karner blue butterfly habitat along the trail route. We ask you to then provide a report on the survey to this office. It will be especially important to note whether wild lupine (*Lupinus perennis*) is present and in what quantity. Wild lupine is the sole food plant of the larvae of the Karner blue butterfly. If wild lupine is present, we will then request the lupine areas be surveyed for the butterfly during its two flight periods. We recommend the vegetational survey be conducted during late May to early June, as this will coincide with the early flight of the butterfly, and also will be during a period in which wild lupine is easily detected. We suggest that it would be best for you to survey for the butterfly at the time of your lupine surveys, and include any observation of the Karner blue butterfly in your report.

To avoid adverse impacts to the butterfly, we recommend that once you have determined if and/or where wild lupine occurs along the trail route, the final routing of the trail be planned in such a manner as to avoid any lupine areas that may be present. If the trail route can not avoid lupine patches and the Karner blue butterfly could be adversely affected by the trail, the National Park Service will need to enter into formal consultation, as specified under section 7 of the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended. To the extent possible and subject to availability, we are willing to provide technical assistance in the design and execution of your surveys. Please contact Mr. Joel Trick of my staff to assist you in your efforts.

Further comments on the impact of this project on federally-listed endangered species will be provided upon review of the survey results. Please forward your report to this office.

We appreciate the opportunity to respond. Questions pertaining to these comments can be directed to Mr. Joel Trick of my staff by calling 920-465-7416.



Janet M. Smith



State of Wisconsin \ DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

Jim Doyle, Governor
Scott Hassett, Secretary
Ronald W. Kazmierczak, Regional Director

Wautoma Service Center
427 East Tower Drive
Suite 100
Wautoma, Wisconsin 54982
Telephone 920-787-4686
FAX 920-787-2477
TTY Access via relay - 711

October 3, 2006

Revised December 14, 2006

Pamela Schuler
Ice Age National Scenic Trail
National Park Service
700 Rayovac Drive, Suite 100
Madison, WI 53711

Department of Natural Resources Comments Ice Age National Scenic Trail Corridor Plan and Environmental Assessment Waushara County

Dear Ms. Schuler:

Thank you for submitting the *National Park Service Corridor Plan and Environmental Assessment* (EA) for the Waushara County Ice Age Scenic Trail expansion. Department staff reviewed the document and have the following comments and concerns:

- ❖ The map in the EA entitled *Proposed Corridor Exhibit (Southern Half)* is missing the Fenske property which is now owned by the Department. This property is located in the East ½, Northeast ¼, Section 36, Township 18 North, Range 8 East.
- ❖ Michael Bergum, the Hartman Creek State Park Manager, indicated that the DNR has proposed routes on state land through the Bohn Lake Tunnel Channel State Ice Age Trail Area (Section 16, Township 19 North, Range 9 East) and the former Maierhafter/Siler property (Section 29, Township 19 North, Range 9 East). For additional information about these proposed routes please contact Mr. Bergum directly at (715) 258-0494.
- ❖ The Wild Rose Fish Hatchery is being renovated and a new visitor center is being constructed. It could be an attractive educational destination or point of interest for hikers.
- ❖ Please avoid wetland impacts to the greatest extent practicable. Many alternatives appear to have done this to some extent already, thank you. For unavoidable wetland impacts please minimize to the greatest extent practicable. Please contact Shawn Eisch, Water Management Specialist, at 920-787-4686 (x3016) to apply for any wetland disturbances which can not be avoided.
- ❖ All navigable waterway crossings will need a permit from Shawn Eisch (contact information above).
- ❖ Soil disturbance will require proper erosion and sediment control measures be installed and maintained throughout the duration of the project. Please follow the Department of Natural Resources construction site erosion and sediment control technical standards. Technical standards can be downloaded from the internet at

<http://dnr.wi.gov/org/water/wm/nps/stormwater/techstds.htm>

- ✓ A Construction Site Storm Water Permit may be required to complete this project if more than one acre of land disturbance occurs (to include soil stock piles, temporary roads, etc). Please contact Jennifer Huffman, WDNR Storm Water Specialist, at 920-832-1803 for further information.
- ❖ Threatened, Endangered, and Special Concern species have the potential of being impacted due to this project. Your EA reflects some of the species listed below; however, some of the special concern communities were not identified. For your information, I summarized all of the information found within your selected corridor from the Natural Heritage Inventory:

Town of Richford

Cuckoo Flower	<i>Cardamine pratensis</i>	State Special Concern
Karner Blue Butterfly	Lycaeides Melissa samuelis	Federal Endangered
Slim-stem Small-reedgrass	Calamagrostis stricta	State Special Concern
Calcareous Fen	Wetland Herbaceous Community of Concern	
Mecan Springs	Spring & Spring Runs (hard) "Community" of Concern	

Town of Coloma

Tufted Hairgrass	<i>Deschampsia cespitosa</i>	State Special Concern
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Town of Hancock

Gorgone Checker Spot	<i>Cheosyne gorgone</i>	State Special Concern
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Town of Deerfield

Karner Blue Butterfly	Lycaeides Melissa samuelis	Federal Endangered
Many-headed Sedge	<i>Carex sychnocephala</i>	State Special Concern
Small-flowered Woolly Bean	<i>Strophostyles leiosperma</i>	State Special Concern
Crooked Lake	Deep, Hard, Seepage Lake, Natural Community of Concern	

Town of Rose

Karner Blue Butterfly	Lycaeides Melissa samuelis	Federal Endangered
Few-flower Spikerush	<i>Eleocharis quinqueflora</i>	State Special Concern
Chain Lake—Inland Beach	Geologic Feature—Community of Concern	
Karner Blue Butterfly	Lycaeides Melissa samuelis	Federal Endangered
Dry Prairie	Upland Herbaceous Community of Concern	
Karner Blue Butterfly	Lycaeides Melissa samuelis	Federal Endangered
Tiger Beetle	<i>Cicindela patruela huberi</i>	State Special Concern
Karner Blue Butterfly	Lycaeides Melissa samuelis	Federal Endangered
Northern Goshawk	<i>Accipiter gentiles</i>	State Special Concern

Thank you for this opportunity to comment. If you have any questions, feel free to contact me at bobbi.reiser@dnr.state.wi.us or 920-787-4686 (x3007).

Best Regards,

Bobbi Jo Reiser
Environmental Review and Analysis Specialist

C: Al Stranz; WDNR—Green Bay
Lisie Kitchel; WDNR—Madison
Shawn Eisch; WDNR—Wautoma
Jennifer Huffman; WDNR—Appleton
Michael Bergum; WDNR—Hartman Creek State Park
Randy Lennartz; WDNR—Wautoma

